Sl. No.	States	STPI Centres
24.	Orissa	Bhubaneswar
25.		Rourkela
26.	Pondicherry	Pandicherry
27.	Punjab	Mohali
28.	Rajasthan	Jaipur
29.	Tamilnadu	Chennai
30.		Coimbatore
31.		Madurai
32.		Thirunavelli
33.		Trichy
34.	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur
35.		Lucknow
36.		Noida
37.		Allahabad
38.	Uttaranchal	Dehradun
39.	West Bengal	Kolkata

Outstanding dues

3029. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the outstanding dues towards Chhattisgarh Telephone Nigam Limited from consumers in Chhattisgarh and the details of the different categories of such consumers alongwith the number of persons belonging to each category; and

(b) the decision Government propose to take to recover outstanding dues from the consumers irrespective of their category and take punitive action against those who do not pay the dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) The category-wise net outstanding telephone dues and the numbers of subscribers are as under:—

Category	No. of Subscribers	Outstanding dues (Rupees in thousands)
State Govt.	5426	5700
Central Govt.	2233	805
Defence Deptt.	Nil	Nil
Private	302904	362492
TOTAL:	310563	368997

(b) Consequent to the corporatisation of service activity through Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, recovery of dues is a commercial matter, decisions on which have to be taken by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, and not by Government. The Company has been taking suitable steps, e.g. disconnection of telephones, with the exception of exempted category, and legal proceedings against the defaulting subscribers. Disconnection of other telephones of the same subscriber for recovery of dues against the defaulting telephone number is also resorted to.

Changes in working of post offices

3030. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR.T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of changes have been made in the working of post offices in the country;

(b) if so, whether long delays in Indian Postal System would be made easier by Automatic Sorting Machine;

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to make the working of post offices more economically and quickly under the latest technology;

(d) whether Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research is financing three-year project with a French Institute; and

(e) if so, to what extent these steps have improved the functioning of the post offices in the country?